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April 9, 1973

Executive Director (NSC Staff Representative)  
Interagency Classification Review Committee (ICRC)  
National Security Council  
The White House Office  
Washington, D. C. 20500

Dear Sir:

For some time I have been desirous--for the purpose of a book I am writing--of having the opportunity of reading certain scientific work done some time ago by the CIA. This is studies pertinent to the area of individual development and socialization in the social and behavioral sciences treating China, Indochina, the Philippines and certain other countries in the region.

In accordance with the document declassification procedures promulgated in accordance with EO 11652 and NSC Directive of May 17, 1972, I have written the Assistant to the Director of the CIA, who is Mr. Angus MacCleen Thuermer, requesting a list of research reports in the social and behavioral sciences treating the countries mentioned.

Mr. Thuermer, in a correspondence extending over several months, writes that "the CIA does very little unclassified research" although a computer search might possibly turn up a few titles--this, however, being extremely doubtful.

An idea which I have several times suggested but to which Mr. Thuermer has not made a direct reply is that these reports, although at one time given a pro forma classification--reports which concern family relations, cultural patterning, superstitious beliefs, the influence of religion and the adjustment of the individual to society and which now clearly have no bearing on national security--must certainly have been declassified by this time. It is inconceivable that these reports would still be the subject of the special handling and safeguarding procedures reserved for even Confidential documents.

I would be most appreciative if you would facilitate the CIA's sending me a list of declassified research reports in the social and behavioral sciences treating Southeast Asia and so give me the opportunity of examining that agency's accomplishments in this area.

Sincerely,



John L. Wirth

73-408/2

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February 17, 1973

Mr. Angus MacLean Thuermer  
Assistant to the Director  
The Central Intelligence Agency  
Washington, D. C. 20505

Dear Mr. Thuermer:

I thank you for your prompt reply to a recent inquiry of mine, which concerned Defense Documentation Center (DDC) bibliographies of classified CIA research reports in the field of Behavioral and Social Sciences which concern China, Indochina or Southeast Asia.

I am grateful for the information that most Classified CIA reports, unlike the Classified reports of nearly every other Government agency, are not circulated by DDC, or most of the Unclassified ones circulated by the National Technical Information Center; that is, that the CIA maintains its own bibliographic and distribution facility.

In order to identify Unclassified CIA reports and Classified reports which have been Classified and have been subject to Downgrading in the above-described subject field, I would be most grateful for the following documents:

- (1) the bibliography produced by your computer bibliographic facility of Unclassified research reports in the Behavioral and Social Sciences to which the following descriptors, or keywords, are attached: China, Indochina, Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia, Southeast Asia
- (2) so much of the following bibliography as is Unclassified under the doctrine that material referring to Classified material is itself Unclassified unless revealing Classified information: the bibliography produced by your computer bibliographic facility of Classified research reports of the above character

With greatest appreciation,

Sincerely,

John L. Wirth